

Applying for a DEA Waiver

Apply for a physician waiver to prescribe or dispense buprenorphine under the Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 (DATA 2000).

To receive a waiver to practice opioid dependency treatment with approved buprenorphine medications, a physician must notify the [SAMHSA Center for Substance Abuse Treatment \(CSAT\)](#) of their intent to practice this form of medication-assisted treatment (MAT). The notification of intent must be submitted to CSAT before the initial dispensing or prescribing of opioid treatment.

Completing the Waiver Notification Form

In order to complete the form, physicians can do the following:

- Complete the [Online Request for New Waiver](#)
- Complete the [Online Request for Patient Limit Increase](#)

The form contains all the data items necessary to expedite the timely processing of waiver notifications. The notification of intent must contain information on the physician's qualifying credentials and additional certifications, including their capacity to refer patients for appropriate counseling and other services. It must also confirm that the physician will not have more than 30 patients at any one time for the first year, regardless of the number of practice locations. **Physicians also must fax their training certificate after completing the waiver form to show that they have completed the [required training to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine](#).**

One year after the physician submits the initial notification; the physician can submit a second notification stating the need and intent to treat up to 100 patients. Learn how to [apply to increase patient limits](#).

SAMHSA reviews applications within 45 days of receipt. Once the application process is complete and the application is approved, SAMHSA will email a letter that confirms the waiver and includes the physician's prescribing identification number. If it has been more than 45 days since a physician has submitted an application or if a physician submitted an application and did not receive an acknowledgement of receipt, contact CSAT's Buprenorphine Information Center at 866-BUP-CSAT (866-287-2728) or send an email to infobuprenorphine@samhsa.hhs.gov(link sends e-mail).

Buprenorphine Training for Physicians

Find information about the eight-hour buprenorphine waiver training courses that are required for physicians to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine.

Under the [Drug Addiction Treatment Act of 2000 \(DATA 2000\)](#), physicians are required to complete an eight-hour training to qualify for a waiver to prescribe and dispense buprenorphine. The following

SAMHSA-supported continuing medical education (CME) courses can help physicians qualify to prescribe buprenorphine in an office setting (courses may require registration and include fees):

- The [Buprenorphine Waiver Training at the American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry](#)(link is external) covers legislation, pharmacology, safety, patient assessment, and more. Complete all the modules and pass the post-test at the end.
- The American Society of Addiction Medicine offers the [ASAM Buprenorphine Course for Office-Based Treatment of Opioid Use Disorders](#)(link is external) in multiple formats that all provide the required 8 hours needed to obtain the waiver to prescribe buprenorphine in office-based treatment of opioid use disorders.
- The [Providers Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment Self Study at the American Osteopathic Academy of Addiction Medicine](#)(link is external), developed by the [Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment \(PCSS-MAT\)](#)(link is external), consists of a 4.25-hours webinar session and a 3.75-hours online session. For a list of trainings provided, visit the [PCSS-MAT Calendar of Events](#)(link is external).

Learn more about [buprenorphine](#) and how to [qualify for a physician waiver](#).

8-Hour Online Training for Physicians

[Click here!](#)

Note: Resident & Fellow ASAM Members (in training) receive complimentary access to the 8-hour online ASAM Treatment of Opioid Use Disorder Course. Click [here](#) to become a member. Please note membership approval requires up to two business days.

24-Hour Online Training for NPs and PAs

ASAM, AAPA and AANP have formed a collaborative to provide the 24-hour waiver training for physician assistants and nurse practitioners. The three organizations are authorized by statute to provide this training. Educational content has been identified and/or created to satisfy the 24-hour requirement as described in the Comprehensive Addiction and Recovery Act (CARA).

To qualify for a waiver, NPs and PAs must:

- Be licensed under state law to prescribe Schedule III, IV, or V medications for pain
- Complete not less than 24 hours of appropriate education through a qualified provider
- Through other training or experience, demonstrate the ability to treat and manage OUD
- **If required by state law**, be supervised or work in collaboration with a [qualifying physician](#) to prescribe medications for the treatment of OUD

Please ensure that your state regulations allow you to prescribe buprenorphine and other medications to treat Opioid Use Disorder **before** you apply for the waiver. Some states may have overriding state legislation that will prevent NPs/PAs from prescribing these medications even if Federal law allows it. [Click here](#) to learn more about applying for the waiver.

This training is divided into two parts of 8 hours and 16 hours. If you have already completed the 8-hour DATA2000 course, you will only need to complete the second part of the 16-hour course.

Buprenorphine Online Trainings

- *MDs, DOs and Residents* (8 Hours)
 - American Society of Addiction Medicine (ASAM) – **FREE**-
<https://elearning.asam.org/products/treatment-of-opioid-use-disorder-waiver-qualifying-it-matttrs>
 - The American Academy of Addiction Psychiatry (AAAP)
Buprenorphine Waiver Training - \$196 for non-members / \$124 for members - <https://www.aaap.org/education-training/buprenorphine/>
 - Providers' Clinical Support System for Medication Assisted Treatment (PCSS-MAT) - **FREE Scheduled Live Training** -
<http://pcssmat.org/education-training/mat-waiver-training/>

- *PAs and NPs* (24 Hours)
 - The 24 hours of training is offered by
 - PCSS-MAT – **FREE** - <http://pcssmat.org/education-training/mat-waiver-training/>
 - ASAM – **FREE** - <https://elearning.asam.org/products/nppa-24-hour-waiver-training-aapa>